

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN NEW YORK4156 SENT ACTION SECSTATE

WASHDC INFO AMMAN, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV, LONDON, PARIS,

MOSCOW, CAIRO, JERUSALEM OCTOBER 24, 1973: QUOTE

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SUBJ: SC RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ME CEASEFIRE

SUMMARY. SECURITY COUNCIL HAD ONE OF STORMIEST SESSIONS SINCE COLD WAR, AS CHINA AND USSR TRADED INSULTS DURING DEBATE ON RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MIDDLE EAST CEASEFIRE. BURDEN OF CHINA'S COMPLAINT WAS THAT SUPER-POWER CONSPONSORS OF RES HAD RUSHED IT THROUGH WITHOUT GIVING SC MEMBERS CHANCE FOR HOLDING CONSULTATIONS OR OBTAINING INSTRUCTIONS, AND WERE USING COUNCIL AS RUBBER STAMP FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. WHILE SOME NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS DEPLORED LACK OF TIME FOR CONSULTATIONS, THERE WAS GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF NEED FOR PROMPT ACTION. EGYPT AND ISRAEL BLAMED EACH OTHER FOR VIOLATING CEASEFIRE, BUT NEITHER THEY NOR MOST SC MEMBERS OPPOSED SUBSTANCE OF RES. UNSYG SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY DISPATCH UN OBSERVERS TO SUPERVISE CEASEFIRE, BUT CAUTIONED THAT HE WOULD PROBABLY NEED MORE MEN TO DO JOB PROPERLY. END SUMMARY.

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1. ISRAELI AMB TEKOAH SPOKE FIRST AFTER EGYPTIAN FONMIN ZAYYAT, WHO HAD CALLED MEETING, ASKED TO DEFER HIS STATEMENT UNTIL AFTER VOTE. TEKOAH ACCUSED EGYPT OF CONTINUING ATTACKS IN VIOLATION OF CEASEFIRE. HE ITEMIZED CEASEFIRE BREACHES, CLAIMING EGYPTIAN ARTILLERY AND BAZOOKA FIRE WAS CONTINUING EVEN NOW IN SOUTHERN SECTOR OF SUEZ. ISRAELI FORCES HAD BEEN ORDER TO RETURN FIRE. ISRAEL, HOWEVER, WAS STILL PREPARED TO STOP FIGHTING AS SOON AS EGYPT DID. FOR ISRAEL, "INDISPENSABLE CONDITION" OF ANY CEASEFIRE WAS RETURN OF ALL POW'S.

2. US INTRODUCED DRAFT RES, RESERVING RIGHT TO COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE AFTER VOTE. (AMB SCALI'S STATEMENT TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.)

3. USSR'S AMB MALIK, AFTER BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT, PROPOSED DRAFT RES BE IMMEDIATELY PUT TO VOTE. AT THIS POINT CHINESE DEP FONMIN CHIAO INTERVENED TO SAY CHINA WOULD NOT ALLOW SUPER POWERS TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL ON COUNCIL WITHOUT PERMITTING DEBATE ON RES WHICH HAD NOT EVEN BEEN TRANSLATED IN ALL LANGUAGES. CHIAO, SAID UN WAS NOT A TOOL TO BE MANIPULATED BY US AND USSR, TO BE JUGGLED IN UTTER DISREGARD OF OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS. AFTER INCREASINGLY HEATED EXCHANGES BETWEEN CHINESE AND SOVIET DELS, SC PRES MCINTYRE ADJOURNED SESSION FOR ABOUT 15 MINUTES TO PERMIT TEMPERS TO COOL. WHEN COUNCIL RESUMED, USSR DID NOT PRESS ITS REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE VOTE AND CHINA COMPLETED ITS COMMENTS ON SUBSTANCE OF RES. ESSENTIALLY THESE WERE THAT RES WAS INADEQUATE BECAUSE IT FAILED TO CONDEMN ISRAEL AND DEMAND RETURN TO JUNE 1967 BOUNDARIES. IT WAS, MOREOVER, EVEN MORE AMBIGUOUS THAN SC RES 242 AND WAS IN SHORT A FRAUD THAT WOULD SOLVE NO PROBLEMS. NEVERTHELESS, WHILE OPPOSED TO IT, CHINA WOULD NOT VETO IT OUT OF RESPECT FOR PARTIES CONCERNED.

4. FOLLOWING VOTE, UK SAID IT SUPPORTED RES BECAUSE IT WAS CLEAR FURTHER ACTION WAS URGENTLY REQUIRED. IT WELCOMED DISPATCH OF UN OBSERVERS TO SUPERVISE CEASEFIRE AND BELIEVED NUMBER OF OBSERVERS MIGHT WELL HAVE TO BE INCREASED. UK SAW NO OBJECTION TO SYG TAKING ACTION TO THIS END, AFTER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ADVICE OF UNTSO CHIEF OF STAFF.
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5. AT THIS STAGE SOVIET AMB MALIK MADE ANOTHER RAMBLING STATE, LARGEMLY IN RESPONSE TO CHINESE. ONE SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT WAS WARNING TO ISRAEL BY SOVIET GOVT OF "SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES INVOLVED IN CONTINUATION OF AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN GOVTs."

6. FRENCH DEL ALSO SAID IT BELIEVED RES RESPONDED TO

IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF SITUATION. SYG MUST BE AUTHORIZED TO SET UP URGENTLY THE NEEDED MECHANISM AND PROBABLY WOULD NEED TO BE AUTHORIZED TO SEND ADDITIONAL OBSERVERS.

7. SYG SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTED UNTSO CHIEF OF STAFF TO HOLD OBSERVERS IN READINESS FOR TYPE OF OPERATION CONTEMPLATED IN RES'S PARA TWO. HE REQUESTED COOPERATION OF PARTIES AND SAID HE EXPECTED HE WOULD HAVE TO INCREASE NUMBER OF OBSERVERS. AT CLOSE OF MEETING, SYG ANNOUNCED THAT UNTSO CHIEF OF STAFF HAD ALREADY REPORTED THAT AS FIRST STEP THE OFFICER IN CHARGE, ISMAILIA, IN COOPERATION WITH EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES, WOULD DEPLOY IMMEDIATELY THREE OBSERVER TEAMS, ONE IN NORTHERN SECTOR, ONE IN CENTRAL SECTOR, AND ONE IN SOUTHERN SECTOR. ISRAELI MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN INFOF OF STAFF WAS DISCUSSING WITH THEM SIMILAR OPERATIONS BASED ON KANTARA FOR THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE CANAL.

8. EGYPTIAN FONMIN ZAYYAT SAID EGYPTIAN TARGETS REMAINED SIMPLE: LIBERATION OF ARAB TERRITORY AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. ZAYYAT CONTINUED THAT END TO ISRAELI OCCUPATION WAS SINE QUA NON OF PEACE AND EGYPT EXPECTED SUPER POWERS TO ENSURE ISRAELI RETURN OF ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORY. EGYPT ALSO EXPECTED THAT PARA ONE OF SC RES JUST ADOPTED WOULD BE CARRIED OUT TO LETTER, THAT IS, ALL FORCES WOULD BE RETURNED TO POSITIONS OCCUPIED AT MOMENT CEASEFIRE BECAME EFFECTIVE.

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